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08 May 2024

Annual General Meeting, 22 May 2024

Dear Fellow,

The Learned Society of Wales Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place at 2:00pm on Wednesday 22 May 2024.

The Society will be hosting a hybrid AGM. This will allow Fellows to attend in person at Cardiff University or join us online. You can **register for the AGM** here.

If you are joining online and need any assistance in setting up Zoom, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/ and need any assistance in setting up Zoom, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/ and need any assistance in setting up Zoom, please contact me at https://doi.org/10.1007/journal.org/ at https://doi.org/ and assistance in setting up Zoom, please contact me at https://doi.org/ at <a hre

To view the Agenda and Papers for the meeting, please click **here**.

If you are unable to attend the AGM and would like to vote by proxy, please click the link below to complete your Proxy form by 4.00pm on Monday 20 May 2024.

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/VVA8RL/

Yours Sincerely,

Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala Clerk to Council hgmartinezzavala@lsw.wales.ac.uk



Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol | Annual General Meeting 22 May/Mai 2024, 14:00 - 16:00 Agenda

0	Trefniadau Olivia Harrison, Prif Weithredwr	Housekeeping Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive	ar lafar oral (3 mins)
1	Croeso a Chyflwyniad Yr Athro Hywel Thomas, Llywydd	Welcome and Introduction Professor Hywel Thomas, President	ar lafar oral (5 mins)
2	In Memoriam Yr Athro Hywel Thomas, Llywydd	In Memoriam Professor Hywel Thomas, President	ar lafar oral (2 mins)
3	Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb Yr Athro Hywel Thomas, Llywydd	Apologies for absence Professor Hywel Thomas, President	ar lafar oral (1 min)
4	Cofnodion Cyfarfod Cyffredinol Blynyddol 2023 Yr Athro Hywel Thomas, Llywydd	Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting Professor Hywel Thomas, President	(ynghlwm attached) (1 min)
5	Cyflwyniad i Gymrodyr Anrhydeddus: Syr Ian Diamond Yr Athro Michael Charlton, Is-Lywydd – Gwyddoniaeth, Technoleg, Peirianneg, Mathemateg a Meddygaeth	Introduction to Honorary Fellows: Sir Ian Diamond Professor Michael Charlton, Vice- President for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine	CCB/2024/01 AGM/2024/01 (10 mins)
6	Uchafbwyntiau'r flwyddyn Olivia Harrison, Prif Weithredwr	Highlights of the Year Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive	ar lafar oral (15 Mins)
7	Anrhydeddau, Gwobrau a dyfarniadau: Chyflawniadau Cymrodyr Yr Athro Hywel Thomas, Llywydd	Honours, Prizes and Awards: Fellows' achievements Professor Hywel Thomas, President	CCB/2024/02 AGM/2024/02 (5 Mins)

8	Cyflwyniad i Gymrodyr Anrhydeddus: Yr Athro Farwes Ann Dowling Yr Athro Michael Charlton, Is-Lywydd – Gwyddoniaeth, Technoleg, Peirianneg, Mathemateg a Meddygaeth	Introduction to Honorary Fellows: Professor Dame Ann Dowling Professor Michael Charlton, Vice- President for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine	CCB/2024/01 AGM/2024/01 (10 mins)
9	Materion Llywodraethol:	Governance Matters:	
	(a) Adroddiad Blynyddol a Chyfrifon 2022/23; Penodi Arholwyr Annibynnol; a Thalysgrifiadau Yr Athro Terry Threadgold, Trysorydd	(a) 2022/23 Annual Report and Accounts; Appointment of Independent Examiners; and Subscriptions Professor Terry Threadgold, Treasurer	CCB/2024/03 AGM/2024/03 (10 mins)
	(b) Swyddogion, Cyngor a Phwyllgorau: Aelodau sydd wedi gadael ac aelodau newydd	(b) Officers, Council and Committees: Outgoing and new members	CCB/2024/04 AGM/2024/04 (10 mins)
	Yr Athro Faron Moller, Ysgrifennydd Cyffredinol	Professor Faron Moller, General Secretary	
10	Cyflwyniad i Gymrodyr Anrhydeddus: Yr Athro William D. Phillips Yr Athro Michael Charlton, Is-Lywydd – Gwyddoniaeth, Technoleg, Peirianneg, Mathemateg a Meddygaeth	Introduction to Honorary Fellows: Professor William D. Phillips Professor Michael Charlton, Vice- President for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine	CCB/2024/01 AGM/2024/01 (10 mins)
11	Ethol Cymrodyr newydd 2023/24 a Croesawu a Chyflwyno Cymrodyr yn Ffurfiol Yr Athro Helen Fulton, Is-Lywydd – Dyniaethau, Celfyddydau a Gwyddorau Cymdeithasol	Election of new Fellows 2023/24 and the Formal Welcome and Introduction of Fellows Professor Helen Fulton, Vice- President for Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences	CCB/2024/01 AGM/2024/01 (20 mins)
12	Anerchiad Blynyddol gan y Llywydd	President's Annual Address	ar lafar oral (10 Mins)
13	Dyddiad y Cyfarfod nesaf Dydd Mercher 21 Mai 2025	Date of Next Meeting Wednesday 21 May 2025	ar lafar oral (1 Min)



MINUTES OF THE THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY HELD IN THE HAYDN ELLIS LECTURE THEATRE AND VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING ON WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2023

Present:

Professor Hywel Thomas Professor Helen Fulton Professor Michael Charlton Professor Terry Threadgold Professor Alan Shore

Professor Sondipon Adhikari Professor Paul Atkinson Professor Robert Beynon Professor Phil Bowen Professor Nigel Brown Professor Clare Bryant Dr Ben Calvert

Professor Elaine Canning

Dr Ruth Chadwick Professor Liana Cipcigan **Professor Tom Crick** Professor Hazel Davey

Professor Ceri Davies **Professor Michael Davies** Professor Mererid Puw Davies

Dr Rob Deaves Dr Cameron Durrant Professor Dianne Edwards Professor Bob Evans Professor Rachel Evans Professor Andrew Evans Professor Anthony Ford

Professor Haley Gomez Professor Tim Green Professor Alan Guwy Professor Abderrahmane

Professor Chris Hann Professor Keith Harding Professor David Herbert Professor Trevor Herbert

Dr Sarah Hill

Haddad

(President) (Vice-President) (Vice President) (Treasurer)

(General Secretary)

Professor Ifan Hughes Dr John Hughes Professor leuan Hughes Professor Sheila Hunt Professor Uzo Iwobi Dr Layla Jader

Professor Geraint Jewell Professor Nigel John **Professor Trevor Jones** Professor Mari Jones Professor David Wvn Jones

Professor Aled Jones

Baroness Brown of Cambridge Dr Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan

Mr Pedr Ap Llwyd

Professor Dame Julie Lydon Professor Faron Moller Professor Kathryn Monk Professor Hywel Morgan

Mr Steve Morris

Professor Damien Murphy

Dr Charles Mynors

Professor Helen Nicholson Professor Perumal Nithiarasu Professor Ruth Northway

Professor Katherine Oglesby Professor Alan Parker Ms Maxine Penlington Professor Duc Pham **Professor Tim Phillips** Professor Eleri Pryse

Professor David Ian Rabey

Professor Robert Read Professor Mark Rees Professor Paul Rees Mrs Elin Rhvs

Professor Geoff Richards Ms Ceridwen Roberts **Professor Gareth Roberts Professor Andrew Rowley**

Wendy Sadler

Professor Rossi Setchi Professor Qiang Shen Professor Huw Summers Professor Andrea Tales

Mr Ned Thomas

Professor Neil Thompson Professor John Tucker Professor Meena Upadhyaya Professor Diana Wallace

Dr Eryn White

Professor Chris Williams Dr John Williams

Professor Laurence Williams Professor Stephen Williams Professor Sir Robin Williams

Dr Rowland Wynne

Professor Reyer Zwiggelaar

96 Fellows in attendance

Present by Proxy 9 Fellows:

Professor Simon Cox Professor Thomas Anthony Ford Professor Claire Gorrara

Professor Hilary Lapin-Scott Professor Ceri Philips Professor Angela V John

Dr. Sue Niebrzydowski Professor Marcela Votruba Dr. Emma Yhnell

In attendance:

Olivia Harrison (Chief Executive)
Amanda Kirk (Clerk to Council)

Joe Boyle (Communications Officer)
Fiona Gaskell (Fellowship Officer)
Dr Haydee Martinez Zavala (Operations Officer)
Cathy Stroemer (Programme Manager)
Dr Barbara Ibinarriaga Soltero (Programme Officer)
Aisha Umma (Finance Officer)

Nerys Hurford (Interpreter)

The Annual General Meeting opened at 9.30 a.m.

1. Welcome and Introduction by the Society's President

The President welcomed attendees, both online and in person, to the 13th Annual General Meeting of the Learned Society of Wales and declared the meeting open.

There was a special welcome to the Society's newly elected Fellows and other Fellows present who were unable to attend one of the previous AGMs.

The President welcomed Nerys Hurford, who was in attendance to offer simultaneous translation, and reminded attendees that they were welcome to address the AGM in Welsh or English.

The President noted the passing of the following Fellows,

- Professor Andrew Linklater, FACSS FLSW FBA 1949 – 2023
- Professor Antony Chapman, OBE FACSS FBPSS FLSW 1947 - 2022
- Professor Howard Thomas, FWIP FLSW 1948 – 2022
- Professor John Harries, FINSTP FRMETS FLSW 1946 – 2022
- Professor Lesley Jones, FLSW 1957 - 2022
- Professor Michael Bruford, FLSW 1963 – 2023

Attendees observed a moments silence in their memory.

2. Apologies for absence

13 apologies had been received and would be listed as an appendix to the minutes of the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25 May 2022

Members **RECEIVED**, **NOTED** and **RESOLVED TO APPROVE** the Minutes of the twelfth Annual General Meeting of the Society, held on 25 May 2022. The minutes would be signed by the President at the earliest opportunity.

4. Announcement of New Honorary Fellow, Baroness Brown

The Chair invited Professor Helen Fulton to introduce Baroness Brown of Cambridge, Professor Julia King, who reluctantly had to withdraw from the AGM in 2022. Baroness Brown was a British engineer who has reached the top of her profession and was incredibly influential. Having graduated from Cambridge University, her early career was at Rolls Royce where she worked on fatigue-resistant alloys for aeroengines, leading to the development of safer and more efficient aircraft. She then moved into academia, taking up the role of Executive Dean for the Faculty of Engineering at Imperial College. She was subsequently appointed Vice-Chancellor of Aston University, a position she fulfilled with great success. During this time, she also chaired the King Review of Low Carbon Cars (2008). Her achievements have been recognised by many awards, namely FREng, FRS, DBE, including her elevation to the House of Lords as a Cross Bencher. Currently, she is particularly well known for her work on the Climate Change Agenda, where she chairs the UK Climate Change Adaptation Committee.

Baroness Brown addressed the meeting:

"Bore da and thank you very much for that great introduction and also for the enormous honour of making me a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. I am absolutely thrilled about it.

I would like to say a few words to you about adaptation and that is very timely for a number of reasons. The first reason being that the Climate Change Commission recently received a commission from the Welsh Government to ask us to review Wales' position in relation to adaptation. Now that is not a statutory requirement, it has been a request that the Welsh Government would like us to do it and it is the first time we have done it for ten years. And that is particularly timely as we have heard recently a lot about the changing climate. We have had the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) AR6 (sixth assessment report) summary report, highlighting that the climate is changing faster and we are seeing more extreme events than had previously been predicted.

We saw 40 degrees centigrade temperatures in the UK last summer. We are being told that we may hit 1.5 or 1.8 degrees as an average global temperature in the next five years. Not on a permanent basis but as a peak, perhaps associated with the El Niño that we are expecting. And of course, we are now probably expecting to reach two degrees centigrade average global warming by 2050, hitting 1.5 degrees sometime in the 2030's. Temperatures will not stop rising until we reach net zero globally. Hopefully, if we reach net zero between 2050 and 2060, globally, we may stop at two degrees or not much higher than that. But of course, if we don't, temperatures will go on rising until we do and that could be towards the end of the century. So, we could be seeing much more than two degrees of average warming by the end of the century if we continue globally on our current pathway.

There are two things we need to do about that and both of them are crucially important. We need to do what we call mitigation, reducing our greenhouse gas emissions. That is fundamental and we must proceed with that as fast as we can. But recognising that temperatures will still go on rising, probably for another 30 years, we also need to adapt to those rising temperatures.

Adaptation has two aspects; we need to look at how people, infrastructure and nature are exposed to those temperatures and those changes in the climate. And how vulnerable they are to those changes. So, adaptation is about acting on exposure and vulnerability.

Wales has some particular challenges that we will be looking at in our report to the Governments. One of those that has really struck me particularly is, of course, that you still have a significant number of towns and villages who have spoil heaps close by from the history of mining in Wales. And the fact that one of the changes in climate that we are seeing is more short periods of very intense rainfall and we know that they can be destabilising, both for the banks at the side of railways as we have seen with a very sad disaster in Scotland quite recently. But also spoil heaps can destabilised by changes in climate. We know that the Welsh

Government is very aware of that, and we will be looking at their plans for tackling that particular issue, that particularly important area that we need to be making sure is safe from the changes in climate.

Adaptation, as I have said, is about exposure and vulnerability, and one of the other good things about the request we have had from the Welsh Government, is that they have asked us to comment on social justice. It is very important that we recognise that we need a just transition for mitigation. We need to make sure that there are jobs for the people whose industries are going to be declining rapidly and that we are re-training them and planning to make sure that they are available and ready for the green jobs that we are developing for future industries.

We also need to recognise that there is a big social justice issue associated with adaptation. That is because part of adaptation is about vulnerability and of course, people who are in less affluent areas tend to have less ability to adapt their homes to the hotter climate for example. That makes them more vulnerable and that is something we really do need to think about right across the UK.

It has been really good to see both the Welsh Government and the Scottish Government asking us specifically to look at vulnerability and justice issues associated with making sure we are properly adapted to the changing climate.

There are a lot of challenges with progress with adaptation in Wales, but also some positive things in terms of what the Welsh Government has asked us to do. It also reminds us that adaptation and mitigation are about engineering, about understanding the climate science, but also about making sure that engineers and physical scientists are working together with social scientists, and we integrate social science closely into the way we address the challenges of the changing climate in the UK and globally.

Adaptation throws up some particularly difficult challenges in terms of evaluation. One of the areas where right across the world we have challenges. We don't yet have enough experimentation, understanding or scientific background in many areas to tell us if the actions we are taking to adapt to the changing climate are actually delivering the outcomes we want. And in that area of monitoring and evaluation, there are huge and interesting opportunities, and we need to see more science and more investment in some large-scale experimentation.

I hope that is something over the next few years, right across the UK, including Wales that we will start to see. Again, thank you very much, it is a huge honour for me to become a Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales. Thank you for bestowing this on me."

Professor Fulton thanked Baroness Brown for her timely speech and for reminding the Society of the particular need in Wales with regard to climate change. It was encouraging to learn that people were already addressing the issues and concerns. Professor Fulton welcomed Baroness Brown to the Society and looked forward to working together in the future.

5. Highlights of the Year

The Chief Executive introduced a presentation of some of the Society's activities over the past year. In 2022, the Society was awarded £172k from HEFCW, an increase of nearly £70k on previous year. This was to continue the partnership to deliver the following areas:

- Further developing our Early Career Researchers network.
- Supporting initiatives for mid-career and senior researchers.
- Providing small grants for collaborative research propositions.
- Strengthening Wales' voice in key strategic partnerships, including the Celtic Academies alliance. In 2022
 the CAA was reignited starting with a trip to Dublin in October. The First Minister had since shown an
 interest in the alliance and its potential to increase Celtic connections. As such representative of the Society

- would be accompanying the First Minister during a visit to the Royal Society of Edinburgh in early June 2023.
- Celebrating excellence and increasing public understanding of research. A significant amount of the funding from HEFCW, alongside support from the Wales Innovation Network and the WG Office for Science had been used to commission Kings College London to repeat their analysis of the REF impact case studies. In 2017 a hugely valuable report was produced using the REF2014 impact case studies. The Society were replicating this with the 2021 results and the report would be published in late 2023.

The past year had seen a huge increase in activity in the Society's offer to ECRs. These included an interactive workshop on research ethics, and science communication and webinars on research careers outside academia and bringing policy into research. All of these activities involved input from at least one Fellow. The Chief Executive expressed her gratitude on behalf of the Society to all those involved, whether in webinars, seminars, the advisory group or the coaching that was being trialled. The Society had also established a new brand specifically for the ECR Network, giving it an identity connected to, but separate from, the LSW brand. The team had been reaching out to existing ECR Networks to ensure the Society's role was adding value by connecting not duplicating the work of other networks. The Society's ECRN was giving ECRs the opportunity to connect with those outside their discipline or institution. The Chief Executive reminded attendees that the Society's first hybrid ECR colloquium was taking place in Swansea on 6 July and encouraged Fellows to attend to support the ECRs in the speed networking or during their flash talks at the event. The Society's research workshop grant scheme was designed to encourage collaborative investigation into a research proposition that were at an early stage of development. Building on the success of 2021 pilot, the Society developed three streams for 2022-23: Wales Studies, Early Career Researcher, and Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. Up to £1,000 was available to support each workshop. The Society ran 3 rounds of grants, awarding 23 grants in total, equating to just over £22k. Lead researchers were from universities in Wales and their workshops had to involve at least one other partner from outside their university. These included researchers from other Welsh universities, UK, and international universities, as well as many partners from non-academic organisations such as local government, community groups, industry, and artists. The Society ran an introductory webinar for grantees and application webinar involving a previous grant winner. Unsuccessful applicants were given feedback. As part of the Society's evaluation, feedback has been collected on the outcome of the workshops and it demonstrated how projects went on to win further internal and external funding. Additionally, for ECRs it was often their first external grant award and allowed them to take the lead on a project for the first time.

The Society were delighted to finally run in-person events again this year including three new Fellow's receptions in Aberystwyth, Swansea, and Cardiff. These were a fantastic way to meet again after lockdown and gave many who had joined the Society virtually, a chance to be formally admitted and to sign the roll of Fellows. The Bangor event was sadly postponed and would be rearranged for the autumn.

The Society has also continued to support events including, but not limited to prestigious lectures such as The David Olive Lecture, The Amy Dillwyn Lecture, this year delivered by Fellow Charlotte Williams and The Zienkiewicz Lecture. Conferences on themes such as "Religious Experience and Mysticism," Welsh manuscripts and Health inequalities. The Society also supported a Purple Plaque – its creation and unveiling event - in honour of Frances Hoggan.

Every year the Society awards medals to outstanding researchers. This year medals were awarded at a new-format awards event in Cardiff Bay, which allowed the Society to invite external stakeholders to see the amazing research happening in Wales. The Minster for Social Justice, Jane Hutt stood in for the First Minister who unfortunately caught Covid and could not attend. The event was promoted widely, and a video was produced to showcase the medals further. The Chief Executive reminded attendees that the nominations were still open for the 2023 medals and encouraged Fellows to consider suitable candidates for nomination. Due to a technical issue, the Chief Executive was unable to play the medals video which can be accessed here. The Chief Executive encouraged Fellows to look at the Society's website and read the monthly bulletin for more detailed information about the Society's work throughout the year.

6. Overview of the Society's work on Innovation Strategies for Wales

The Chief Executive noted that Professor Rick Delbridge had sent last minute apologies as he was unable to attend the AGM due to illness. The Society wished Professor Delbridge a speedy recovery.

Professor Delbridge was the Special Adviser for Research and Innovation and Chaired the Society's work on innovation.

Since November 2021, the Society had convened a number of roundtables bringing together innovation experts, practitioners, and leaders to help inform and improve innovation policies and practices in and for Wales. The contribution of the discussions and the reports was recognised in September 2022, when the Society was invited to co-host and co-convene a roundtable discussion by the Minister for the Economy to feed directly into the final stages of the consultation on the Draft Innovation Strategy for Wales.

7. Honours, Prizes and Awards

The President thanked Professor Delbridge for all the work he had done and noted that it was fantastic to see the Society playing such and influential role in the Welsh Government Innovation Strategy. The President reiterated the Chief Executives point and reminded Fellows that the 2023 medals cycle was open until 30th June. Fellows were encouraged to think about colleagues and friends and consider if any of them could be among the next cohort of Society medal winners. Paper 2023/02 listed of all the honours and awards that the Society were aware that Fellows had received in the last 12 months. The President noted his amazement at the breadth of the achievements and successes of the Society's Fellows and expressed his pride in working with such a distinguished group of individuals. The range of honours was very impressive. Seven Fellows featured in the late Queen's birthday honours list and a further 3 in the King's New Year's honours list. It was very difficult to single out specific achievements when all were such noteworthy accomplishments.

The President encouraged Fellows to take a look at what colleagues had been doing. There was so much being done, and this did not include the vast number of books and publications that Fellows had worked on. The President apologised if anyone had been missed, and asked that Fellows let Joe Boyle, the Society's Communications Officer, know about any omissions. Omissions would be reported in a forthcoming Fellows Bulletin. The Society was only able to report honours and awards that were reported to the team. The President congratulated all Fellows who had received an honour or award in the previous year.

8. Governance Matters

8a. Annual Report and Accounts, 2021/22 and Appointment of Independent Examiners

The Treasurer introduced the Society's Annual Report and Accounts and noted that a great deal had happened during the period 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022. The report was available to view on the Society's website and hard copies are available to Fellows upon request. It was important to understand where the Society's income came from, and the treasurer offered a broad overview. The Finance Committee would consider the possibility of further annual increases from universities in Wales to support the Society's funding. The income generated from Fellows would continue to rise and would support the Society's needs. The increased funding from HEFCW had made a huge difference to the Society's work and the Treasurer thanked Olivia for all her hard work to secure additional funding and generate a rolling income going forward. The Society remained very grateful to all Welsh Universities who continued to provide unrestricted funding to support the Society's work.

The Society were also thankful for the generous donation of pro-bono services from UWTSD. Without their support the Society would not be able to function. UWTSD had also started the process of drafting a formal lease with the Society to safeguard accommodation. It was hoped that the lease would be in place for at least three years. The Treasurer thanked all Fellows for their contribution through the payment of subscriptions and additional donations. The Society was also grateful to all those Fellows who allowed the Society to claim gift aid against their subscription. This increased donations by 25% at no additional cost to the Fellow. The Treasurer encouraged any Fellows eligible who does not already do so to allow the Society to claim Gift Aid against their subscription. Fellows could access the Gift Aid form by visiting the Society's website clicking on DONATE in the top right-hand corner of the homepage. The Society was pleased to have received a significant increase to the grant from HEFCW. The Chief Exec was able to secure £103,623, allowing the Society to recruit new staff to deliver the HEFCW-funded Researcher Development programme.

The Treasurer and the Executive team were delighted with the work Olivia had done and welcomed the new partnership agreement between the Society and HEFCW to develop a national support scheme for researcher development, which included expanding the Early Career Researchers Network. The Treasurer noted that the largest outgoing remained the cost of the staff team who support all the work the Society continues to do. The Treasurer reported that there were no unexpected expenditures during the year. The Society had carried over a small surplus and finances remained healthy.

The Society continued to hold sufficient reserves to satisfy the reserves policy and at the end of the financial year had £245,000 invested in the strategic development fund. The Finance Committee would review the Strategic Development fund and how it was use in the coming year. The Finance Committee would also be reviewing the reserves policy to determine if six months operating costs remained sufficient for the changing shape of the Society. The Society's Bye-laws and Regulations required the Society's audited accounts and annual report to be presented at the AGM. Fellows were therefore invited to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for the period 1 August 2021 to 31 July 2022 (the Society's eleventh accounting period).

Fellows resolved to adopt the Society's Annual Report and Accounts 2021 - 2022.

The Treasurer noted the details of the independent financial advisors who had worked with the Society over the past few years. The Society had been happy with the level of service offered and would welcome the opportunity to continue working with Azets.

Fellows resolved to approve the appointment of Azets, the independent examiners.

Members **RECEIVED**, **NOTED** and **RESOLVED** to approve paper AGM/2023/03, Governance Matters, Annual Report and Accounts, 2021/22 and Appointment of Independent Examiners for 2022/23.

8b. Governance Matters

Officers, Council and Committees: Outgoing and new members

The General Secretary introduced paper AGM/2023/04 to meet some of the Society's constitutional requirements. The General Secretary advised that in the previous year, in addition to the annual items that Council addressed, including conducting a review of the Society's Regulations, updating the Society's schedule of delegations, reviewing the Governance Committees' terms of reference, and approving the 22/23 budget and associated activity plan. The Society's Council have also, consulted on and contributed to the Society's new five-year strategy. Approved the changes to the former C1 committee including the name change to ICAP. Supported the EDI (now DEI) working group to implement changes to create a more inclusive Society. Carried out a comprehensive review of the Society's Risk Register. Established a comprehensive business plan for each Governance Committee and Revised the code of conduct for all Fellows.

The General Secretary advised Fellows that in early 2023, the Fellowship voted to elect Professor Hywel Thomas as the President of the Learned Society for a further three-year term. The General Secretary congratulated Professor Thomas and noted that he looked forward to continuing to support the President in the delivery of the Society's next strategy. Fellows were reminded that the 2023 AGM marked the end of the General Secretary's second term, and he would be handing over to Professor Faron Moller who had been elected by a ballot of all Fellows in April 2023. The General Secretary wished Professor Moller every success in his new role. Although the General Secretary was standing down from as general Secretary, he would continue to serve on Council for one final year. Following his election, Professor Faron Moller would become an ex officio member of Council. Professor Roger Awan-Scully had stood down from Council following a move to Hong Kong. The General Secretary thanked Professor Awan-Scully for his contributions to Council.

In March, the Society conducted a ballot of all Fellows to elect five members of Council. All five Fellows who were eligible for re-election were returned and would serve for a second three your term. The General Secretary congratulated Professor Claire Gorrara, Professor Alma Harris, Professor Qiang Shen, Professor John V Tucker and Professor Meena Upadhyaya and their re-election. The General Secretary thanked all those Fellows who had applied for positions on Council, and hoped they would consider applying in the future as there were some incredibly talented fellows on the ballot. The General Secretary offered his sincere thanks to everyone who has given up their time serve on the Society's governance committees; their contributions were invaluable.

There have been no changes to the Finance Committee and the team would continue to work together next year. In February 2023, the General Purposes Committee issued a call out for an additional member. The General Secretary congratulated Ms Maxine Penlington who was appointed without the need for an election.

There were no other changes to the membership of the General Purposes Committee.

There were no changes to the membership of the Fellowship Committee and with the incredible support of Fiona Gaskell they continued to make sure the Society's election cycle operated fairly and inclusively.

The member of the Governance oversight committee was unchanged.

The General Secretary noted that it had been a pleasure to work with the Society's URLS over the past year. He thanked the URLS for their input to Council, nominations for new Fellows and all the suggestions that they had put forward. Professor Richard Day had replaced Professor Maria Hinfelaar at the representative for Glyndwr University. The General Secretary thanked Professor Hinfelaar for all the contributions that she had made and welcomed Professor Day. Professor Alma Harris had left Swansea University to join Cardiff Metropolitan University and the Society would be looking for another URLS from Swansea. Fellows were encouraged to let Fiona Gaskell know if they would be interested in becoming the HASS URLS for Swansea.

The General Secretary took a few moments to address the AGM and noted that he was born in Tredegar, two years after the NHS was established. Two years after the Society was established, he joined the Society's Council and served under each of the Society's Presidents. He had worked with every Chief Executive and was involve in the appointment of two. During his time, he had seen the Society's activities grow significantly and the most important factor in that growth was the staff. It had not always been easy to recruit, but the team had been very special with a keen interest in delivering the objectives of the Society.

The General Secretary noted his thanks to the Executive Team. They were a special group and he had learnt a great deal from their wisdom, knowledge and common sense. One notable aspect of the Society's development was the growing connections outside of Wales, the Celtic Academies Alliance, work with the Seven Academies, the work Professor Helen Fulton was doing with ALLEA and this year, the work the Society had done with the American Philosophical Society. In addition, the Society had already met with the new VC at Cardiff University when Professor Wendy Larner visited as President of Te Aparangi, the Royal Society of New Zealand, perhaps Professor Larner would be able to improve the Society's links with New Zealand?

Finally, Professor Faron Moller, the incoming General Secretary was Professor of Computer Science at Swansea University and the current General Secretary had taken his role from a distinguished Professor of Computer Science at Swansea University. All three of the Society's General Secretary's to date had achieved part of their undergraduate education in mathematics, Rishi Sunak would be impressed! And now all current and previous General Secretary's would be serving as members of Council together.

The General Secretary welcomed Professor Moller and wished him well in his new role.

Members **RECEIVED** and **NOTED** paper AGM/2023/04, Governance Matters, Officers, Council and Committees: Outgoing and new members.

9. Announcement of New Honorary Fellow, Professor Hannah Fry

Professor Helen Fulton introduced the new Honorary Fellow, Professor Hannah Fry. Professor Hannah Fry was a mathematician. A Professor in the Mathematics of Cities at the University College London Centre for Advanced Spatial Analysis, and a well-known author, presenter on radio and television, and public speaker.

She was a prominent figure in mathematics public engagement, enthusing and inspiring a wide range of audiences, and has received numerous accolades. Notable achievements range from delivering the 2019 Royal Institution Christmas Lectures on the topic `Secrets and Lies: The Hidden Power of Maths', being awarded the prestigious Christopher Zeeman Medal by the London Mathematical Society and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications in 2018 `for her contributions to the public understanding of the mathematical sciences', to receiving the 2020 Asimov Prize for her book `Hello World'.

Elected an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 2022, Professor Fry was an outstanding role model who was inspiring and educating future generations and the wider public on the power and beauty of mathematics.

Sadly, Professor Fry was unable to join the AGM, but she sent the Society a video that can be viewed here.

10. Launch of the Society's New Strategy 2023 - 2028

The Chief Executive introduced the Society's new Strategy for 2023 – 28 and noted that having looked back at the achievements over the past year, this was also an opportunity to look forward, and present the Society's strategy for the next 5 years.

This strategy was the result of nearly a year of development through consultation and would provide the Society with a roadmap and a list of objectives for delivery over the next five years.

The strategy was intentionally high-level and ambitious, both, being agreed by Council as how they wanted to present their vision for the direction of the Society.

The Chief Executive noted her thanks to Council, all the Governance Committees and the staff for the time they had taken to support the creation of the Strategy which centres around their – and all Fellows – expertise and experience as the Society's Fellows were the greatest asset for the Society to deliver this strategy.

The Society had nearly 700 distinguished leaders and academics across every discipline in the Fellowship. Whilst Fellows may be global in location they were united in their connection to Wales, and for many Fellows, their wish to contribute their expertise to support Welsh society.

Over the past decade The Society had built strong connections with Welsh universities, Welsh Government, and other key stakeholders to promote Welsh research with UK and international partners. The Society had also developed a reputation as an independent, authoritative voice.

These strengths had given the Society a distinct identity. Combined with established governance structures, staff team and financial position, the Society was on a sustainable footing to look towards growth over the next five years.

The 2023-28 strategy set out the Society's mission to build on these strong foundations to make an impact.

The Society's charitable objective remained the same, and its purpose was to advance education, learning, academic study and knowledge to contribute wide reaching benefits to Wales and beyond.

To be more specific, as the National Academy for Wales, the Society's mission was to harness the vast and multidisciplinary expertise of the Fellowship to develop the people in our knowledge community and support excellent and diverse research that would solve the big local and global challenges.

The Society would realise its mission by aiming to achieve four broad ambitions:

- Making an impact contributing to solving real-world challenges
- Fostering collaboration creating and strengthening multi-disciplinary connections across Wales and beyond
- Growing talent making Wales a great place to be researcher to grow and retain our knowledge base.
- Promoting inclusivity being a welcoming Society but also ensuring our activities and impact were inclusive.

Using these four ambitions, the strategy focussed the Society's future activities on delivering four strategic priorities.

Each priority was set out in two sections; "continue to" and "grow," reflecting that the Society wanted to build on the foundations of work already in motion but also to capture the Society's ambition to do more.

The scale at which this ambition could be achieved was reliant on resource, but the strategy demonstrated where the Society would like to go, should increasing resources be possible.

Annual action plans would be produced, working closely with relevant committees, these would sit under this strategic plan and would detail the scale of the activity for each priority.

You can read a copy of the strategy here.

The first strategic priority was to Contribute to major policy solutions by providing independent advice and facilitating knowledge exchange.

As Wales' National Academy, the Society believed that excellent research was critical to benefiting Wales, and that there was more that could be done to help policymakers improve their understanding of this by growing the Society's role as an independent convening power. As part of this the Society were committing to establishing stronger partnerships with others to grow the impact that could be achieved. In particular, there was a desire to build on relationships with the other national academies and international partners to influence policy outside of Wales.

To support this priority, the Society would provide researchers at all career stages with opportunities to gain a greater understanding of policy and contribute to policy-making. Key to being part of solving real-world challenges, the Society had also committed to supporting and promoting Wales Studies – research that was distinct and strategically important to Wales.

The second strategic priority was to Create an environment that supported Wales' current and future experts.

The Society's ECR Network was valued and had great potential to grow to realise more benefits for current and future research talent in Wales. The Society believed that multidisciplinary connections – initially within Wales but increasingly beyond - were key to the network because they were key to Wales' research and innovation base and tackling national and global issues.

Therefore, the Society would also look at other ways, beyond the current research workshop grant scheme, to support collaborations. It was the Society's ambition to become an integral part of the sector that supported researcher development to ultimately contribute to making Wales a great place to be a researcher.

As part of building this environment, the Society committed to continuing to celebrate the value of excellent research. This had always been core to the Society, through the medals awarded annually, and was something that would continue, with a focus on celebrating the diversity of excellence in Wales.

The third strategic priority was to Develop a more diverse and active Fellowship.

Ensuring that the Society involved a diverse range of Fellows in all aspects of its work, in order to take the strategy forward, was a common thread during the development of the strategy. The Society had made great strides in improving diversity and inclusivity and this was seen as important work to continue throughout every aspect of delivering the new strategy.

Council approved the creation of a new role within the Society, a Strategic Engagement Manager, who would drive both these important areas forward. Helen Willson would be joining the team in August 2023 to lead on a Fellowship engagement strategy specifically to improve diversity, Equity and inclusion, engage with Fellows outside Wales, and raise the profile of the benefits of Fellowship.

The fourth and final strategic priority was to Develop the organisation.

After 13 years, the foundations of the Society were in a strong place. However, there was no appetite to stand still, and the Society recognised that there were still improvements that could be made. For example, making better use of data to understand the Fellowship and the Society's impact. Improving communications to ensure the Society's growing impact was visible, recognised and celebrated.

Resources were key to delivering the Society's ambitions and there was a commitment to support and develop the staff team and manage existing finances whilst seeking new funding sources.

The new strategy came into effect from the close of the AGM and would be launched publicly in the autumn, at the start of the new academic year.

With an emphasis on experts, Ms Ceridwen Roberts asked the Chief Executive "to what extent do the Welsh Government listen"?

The Chief Executive noted that the work around innovation was a new format for the Society. Ministers invited the Society to feed into the consultation and subsequently to contribute to the delivery plan, the relationship with the Welsh Government was currently a good one.

Ms Roberts asked the Chief Executive what the Society was doing to support the UKs return to Horizon. The Chief Executive noted that the Society was working with the other academies in the UK as a collective and together they were making a stronger case for a return to Horizon.

The President added that the Society was growing a good relationship with the Welsh Government who were actively seeking the Society's views on innovation and also on constitutional review.

11. Election of New Fellows

The Vice President (VP) for Science, Technology, Engineering, Medicine and Mathematics Professor Michael Charlton, introduced the 41 new Fellows who had been elected to the Society during the 2022-23 election cycle.

Professor Charlton noted that Wales' reputation for high-calibre research and a thriving civic life, built on knowledge and expertise, was recognised in the Society's newly elected Fellows.

The new Fellows included academics from across Welsh and UK universities, writers, researchers and leaders from the world of higher education, as well as law, medicine and the media.

In the year in which the Society launched its new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion commitment, it was encouraging to see that over 50% of the new Fellows were women.

Of the Society's new Fellows, 18 were present to sign the roll of Fellows and 17 Fellows who were elected in previous years were also in attendance to sign.

The President began the official induction by stating;

In the name and by the authority of The Learned Society of Wales, I admit you as Fellows thereof: (*indicates Fellows were present to sign)

Professor Gary Beauchamp

Ms Kellie Beirne

*Professor Nigel Brown

*Professor Clare Bryant

*Dr Ben Calvert

Dr Elaine Canning

Professor Liana Cipcigan

Professor Rachel Collis

Professor Hazel Davey

Professor Jamie Davies

Dr Huw Edwards

*Professor Andrew Evans

*Professor Rachel Evans

Professor Carol Featherston

Ms Alice Gray

*Professor Tim Green

Professor Sarah Hill

Professor Cathy Holt

*Professor Sheila Hunt

Professor Lisa Isherwood

Professor Tim Jones

Professor Roger King

Dr Dawn Knight

*Professor Chenfeng Li

Professor Christopher Michael

*Dr Charles Mynors

*Professor Alan Parker

*Professor Paul Rees

*Mrs Elin Rhys

Professor Helen Roberts

Dr Sara Elin Roberts

*Ms Wendy Sadler

Professor Rossi Setchi

Judge Ray Singh

Professor Sir Steve Smith

*Professor Andrea Tales

Yr Athro Enlli Thomas

*Professor Neil Thompson

Dr Huw Walters

*Professor Laurence Williams

Professor John Witcombe

Mike said: This concluded the induction of new Fellows. The Vice President the new cohort of Fellows and invited Fellows elected in previous years to sign the roll of Fellows.

Fellows elected 2022:

Dr Cameron Durrant

Professor Uzo Iwobi

Professor Geraint Jewell

Professor Robert Read

Fellows elected 2021:

Professor Huw Summers

Fellows elected 2020:

Professor Tom Crick

Professor Chris Hann

Professor Ifan Hughes

Dr John Hughes

Dr Rhiannon Ifans

Professor David Ian Rabey

Fellows elected 2019:

Professor Alan Guwy

Fellows elected 2018:

Professor Damien Murphy

Professor Stephen Williams

Fellows elected 2015:

Professor Robert Beynon

Fellows elected 2014:

Professor Aled Gruffydd Jones

The President Concluded by saying "As an elected Fellow of the Learned Society of Wales, they undertake to do all within their power to uphold the purposes and good name of the Society."

12. President's Address

Good morning. I am delighted to have this opportunity to speak to you all at the end of another year full of opportunities, challenges and change. I would like to reiterate the Society's warm welcome to our new Honorary Fellow: Professor Hannah Fry - and thank her, and Baroness King for today's extremely interesting insights into their work and careers.

I would also like to extend that welcome to all our new Fellows. You bring with you a tremendously diverse range of expertise and experiences, and I am looking forward to seeing that further enrich our Fellowship community and the work of the Society. I'm particularly pleased to see that of our 41 new Fellows, 21 are women. After reaching our target of achieving a gender-balanced intake last year, I am delighted that we have exceeded the target this year, and for the first time in the history of the Society we have elected more women than men. I am incredibly grateful to the staff and Fellows who made sure we did not rest on our laurels and that we continued making improvements to achieve this.

Fellowship is recognition of those who have made outstanding contributions, who have a connection to Wales and meet our criteria of excellence in achievements, reputation and standing, and impact. This year we would like to encourage all our Fellows to strengthen and diversify our already remarkable fellowship and it is our aim to create a culture of inclusion in all our work. We are committed to celebrating, inspiring and highlighting the diverse richness of research and innovation in Wales and working in partnership with our Fellows and the communities to which we belong.

If we truly want to diversify our Fellowship, then more active intervention is required which is why we are encouraging Fellows to nominate ethnic minority people, who we believe are under-represented in our fellowship. This was a recommendation from our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion working group, formed this year and chaired by Professor Terry Threadgold. In support of this and to lead the way, the Society's Council members have each committed to nominating an ethnic minority nominee in 2023.

As part of our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion work in the last year, we have also looked at how we use Cymraeg. The Society is a proudly bilingual organisation and our status as Wales' national academy for the arts and sciences gives us the opportunity to contribute to fostering the use, understanding and awareness of the history and cultural value of the Welsh language. With the support of a Welsh language working group, formed of Fellows, we are progressing a Welsh language development plan to be published by the end of 2023. It has emphasis on learning and using the Welsh language, in line with the ambitions of Cymraeg 2050. As this plan is developed in the next six months, we will work to put the Society in the best position to deliver this renewed commitment to Welsh, by building staff confidence and familiarity with the Welsh language and improving processes to streamline and incorporate language considerations in our activity planning and delivery. This builds on initiatives in the last year, which saw us provide simultaneous translation in three meetings of the Council and publish our work on innovation strategies for Wales in both Welsh and English. Our forthcoming report on the REF2021 Impact case studies from Welsh universities will, amongst a range of analyses, look at the contribution of research from Wales to the ambitions of Cymraeg 2050, and it will also examine the breadth of recent work in Wales Studies.

The Welsh language belongs to all of us in Wales, whether we are fluent or not, and I would like to encourage Fellows to support our efforts. Diolch.

We were delighted to be able to return to the Eisteddfod Genedlaethol in August. Our eisteddfod lecture was given by Professor Dafydd Johnston, A New Look at Strata Florida. The lecture presented fascinating research by some of the Society's Fellows that has transformed our understanding of the history of Florida Strata. It saw our largest audience for a humanities lecture to date at the National Eisteddfod. We were also pleased to collaborate with the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol to host a small reception for Fellows on the Maes, and the chance to reconnect with our community in person was very welcome.

We also had the opportunity this year to make connections in an international context. Earlier this year, we partnered with the American Philosophical Society, the US's oldest national academy, for a transatlantic lecture exchange to mark the tercentenary of Richard Price's birth. Professor Iwan Morus FLSW gave a lecture at the APS in Philadelphia in January, and we welcomed Dr Patrick Spero, Librarian and Director of the APS's Library and Museum to Cardiff in late February. Recordings of both fascinating talks are available on our YouTube channel, and I encourage you take the time to catch up with them for a wonderful insight into the work and influence of one of Wales's greatest thinkers.

Building on our efforts in Wales Studies, we have been recognised as a custodian and leader in this area. HEFCW and the University of Wales Press have both adopted out definition of the field – all fields of enquiry that explore the cultural, social, and physical features of Wales, in the full breadth of Wales's national and international contexts. The Society was invited by HEFCW to chair an expert panel to oversee the allocation of new funding for Wales Studies publications by the University of Wales Press, and our Vice President for Humanities Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Helen Fulton has taken on this role. In the coming months, we will further develop our work in Wales Studies, and collaborate with stakeholders to take this work forward.

As Professor Rick Delbridge has outlined, over the last eighteen months our policy work has looked at innovation strategies in Wales, and the wider UK science, research, and innovation landscape. We used our convening power to bring together experts and practitioners to create a space for discussion of a wide range of considerations. This sustained project brought valuable insight, comparisons, and reflection. We were pleased to be invited by Welsh Government to co-host a roundtable discussion with the Minister for the Economy, Vaughan Gething and the then leader of Plaid Cymru, Adam Price, during the consultation period for the draft innovation strategy for Wales. Building on this contribution we were delighted to be invited once again to co-convene a discussion with Welsh government on the development of the delivery plan, last week. Our Fellows are an important resource in helping to inform policy and strategy with evidence and experience, and we look forward to contributing more to this area.

The last year has seen several policy developments at a UK level regarding research and innovation. I was pleased to have been invited to join the Sounding Board of the Research, development, and innovation landscape review, led by Sir Paul Nurse, in my capacity as President of the Society. The review's report was long-awaited, and we are encouraged that it considers the responsibilities of the devolved governments and administrations within the UK's RDI landscape. It identifies the need to draw on local expertise and knowledge to develop initiatives and to 'level up' RD&I investment. The report underlines the importance of unhypothecated research and, as we have previously championed, the QR block grant as a basic building block for research activity across all disciplines, enabling researchers to compete for large grants from UK and, association to Horizon permitting, European Research Councils.

The report also highlights the important role of the Learned Society of Wales, and the six other national academies of UK, in terms of creating connections, contributing to policy, and bridging gaps between disciplines and sectors. We have recently seen more collaborations between the seven academies, which is welcome, and next month, along with the Royal Society, the British Academy, and the Royal Society of Edinburgh, we will cohost the All-European Academies (ALLEA) General Assembly in London. We remain a proudly European organisation, and the seven national academies have been resolute since 2016 that association to Horizon Europe is vital for the success and reputation of research in the UK. Throughout the last year we have reiterated our encouragement for the UK government to deliver on its commitment to associated soon as possible, for the benefit of the research community.

We have also deepened our connections within the Celtic Academies Alliance of late. We were able to meet with the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Royal Irish Academy in person for the first time since 2019, in Dublin in the autumn. Our productive discussions have continued since, we have welcomed both Professor Sarah Skerett CEO of the RSE and Siobhan O'Sullivan, the Executive Director of the RIA to Cardiff. We are actively building connections between our organisations at every level, sharing experiences and practices,

learning from each other, and identifying opportunities for collaboration. Most recently we have worked on a comparative project looking at HE provision in Wales, Scotland, and the northwest of the island of Ireland. We look forward to building on our collaborative work in the next year.

I hope that today's presentations have demonstrated the increasing breadth of activity that the Society is delivering and the impact it is having. Much of our recent activity is thanks to the ongoing and increasing support from HEFCW. We hope to formalise this relationship further later this summer, to put the Society on firmer footing as we deliver our new strategy.

Olivia has already outlined our ambition for the Society over the next 5-year period of our new strategic plan. I have enjoyed shaping this alongside Olivia and the staff team but would particularly like to thank our Council for their strategic input into creating this plan. All of our work guided by our Council, which is the Society's board of trustees and therefore responsible for the governance and effective running of our charity. As I start my second term as President it continues to be a privilege to work alongside you, my fellow Council members.

I would also like to recognise all of the universities in Wales for the generous financial contributions they make to our work. I'm very grateful for their support of the Society, particularly today to Cardiff University for the use of this room.

However, whilst funding is important, the enormous amount of time and expertise that is given by our Fellows is an immeasurable resource. I would like to thank all of you that have contributed in some way this year, whether it be nominating someone for a medal, speaking at an ECR workshop, contributing to a working group or any of the many other ways. The Fellows of this Society are our greatest asset, and we look forward to working with you, and on your behalf, to use your vast, and diverse, collective knowledge and experience for the benefit of Wales.

It is on that note that I would like to give my final note of thanks to Professor Alan Shore. We are extremely grateful to Alan for his six years of outstanding service as General Secretary of the Society. Alan has been an exceptional colleague, whose dedication and support to staff and the Society has been unwavering. His opinions are always valued by the Executive and staff team, and we are especially grateful for how he has been unfailingly willing to step in and help out regardless of the task in hand. His advocacy for the Welsh language and his contributions as a member of the Executive team and Council, have been both insightful and invaluable and I am thrilled that Alan will be remaining on Council for another year as well as continuing as Chair of the Welsh language working group. I'm sure he will continue to bring his wisdom and expertise to the Society, and I thank you most sincerely for your service as General Secretary and dedication to the Society.

As we reach the conclusion of our first hybrid AGM, I sincerely hope both those in the room and those online, many of whom are all over the UK - and indeed the world – have enjoyed being able to connect with the Society and participate. As we all get used to this hybrid format, we will be delivering a range of events and activities going to forward to connect with more Fellows and I look forward to meeting many of you there.

13. Date of the Next Meeting

The President noted that the next AGM would be held on Wednesday 22 May 2024.

The AGM concluded at 11.30 a.m.

APPENDIX

Apologies for the AGM were received from:

Professor Sir Michael Berry

Professor Claire Gorrara

Dr. Robyn Gwyndaf

Professor Cathy Holt

Dr. Wyn Meredith

Professor W John Morgan

Professor Iwan Morus

Professor Ceri Philips

Professor Geoff Richards

Judge Ray Singh

Professor Enlli Thomas

Professor Helen Wilcox

Dr. Emma Yhnell



Election of new Fellows and Honorary Fellow, 2023/24

The Society launched its 2023/24 Election Cycle on 01 June 2023 with Fellows invited to make nominations for election to the Fellowship. At the same time, the Fellowship was invited to submit recommendations to Council for the election of Honorary Fellows. During this year's cycle, 7.2% of Fellows put forward names for nomination – a very slight increase in engagement since 2022/23. Despite this slight improvement, reasons for level of engagement may include the increasing pressure of work experienced by Fellows. We would like to see an increase in the number of Fellows nominating.

The criteria for election to Fellowship and Honorary Fellowship are set out in the Society's Bye-laws and are available here: www.learnedsociety.wales/our-fellows/fellowship-election-cycle/criteria/

Nominations for Honorary Fellowship

Three recommendations for Honorary Fellowship were received this year: Professor Sir Ian Diamond, Professor Dame Ann Dowling and Professor William D Phillips. Council considered these recommendations and resolved that all should be formally nominated. Complete nominations were received for all three and Council recommended them for election.

Nominations for Fellowship

In June 2023, Fellows were invited to make nominations for election to the Fellowship. 49 Fellows submitted a total of 61 nominations by the closing date of 31 October 2023.

On Tuesday 01 November 2023, two more nominations were brought to the attention of the staff. With the approval of the Vice-Presidents, they were accepted.

Of the 63 Nominees, 9 had previously been nominated.

	Science, Engineering, Technology, Mathematics & Medicine	Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences	Industry, Commerce, Arts & Professions	Total
New Nominations	16	17	23	56
Re-nominated	1	1	5	7
Total	17	18	28	63

A maximum of 10 Scrutiny Committees operate during the election cycle. Their role is to assess the nominations and decide which nominees should be recommended for election.

Five of the committees (STEMM1 to STEMM5) covered the broad academic area of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (for which Professor Michael Charlton is the responsible Vice-President).

Three committees (HASS1 to HASS3) covered the broad academic area of the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (for which Professor Helen Fulton is the responsible Vice-President).

The remaining two committees (ICAP1 and ICAP2) covered Industry, Commerce, Arts and the Professions. As there is no Vice-President for ICAP, responsibility was shared by the Vice-Presidents for HASS and STEMM.

A full list of Scrutiny Committee members is provided in **Appendix B**.

This year, as in previous years, Scrutiny Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs attended a briefing session in mid-January before the Committees met and an induction session was held for new Scrutiny Committee members. Following these meetings, all Scrutiny Committees met during the period 22 January – 19 February 2024.

As in previous years, the Vice-Presidents each held meetings with the Scrutiny Committee Chairs in their respective area to benchmark the recommendations, with both Vice-Presidents holding a benchmarking meeting with the Chairs of the two ICAP Committees.

Council considered the recommendations of the Scrutiny Committees and Vice-Presidents and approved a list of 43 nominees for submission to the Fellowship as a whole, for formal election.

Ballot of Fellows

A ballot including the 43 Fellowship nominees and 3 Honorary Fellowship nominees was circulated to current Fellows on 20 March 2024; the deadline for return was 10 April 2024.

To be elected, a nominee must receive the support of at least 50% of Fellows who return valid ballots by the due date. In all, 257 valid ballots were returned (a 38% response rate which was lower than the response rate of 47% in the 2022/23 cycle) were returned by the deadline.

The President appointed two Fellows, Professor Edwin Egede FLSW and Professor Helen Roberts FLSW, as Scrutineers for the election. On 11 April 2024, they counted the returned ballots in the presence of the Clerk.

Three Honorary Fellows and 43 new Fellows (that is, all of those included on the ballot paper) were elected. The new Fellows elected are listed in **Appendix A** to this paper.

Following the last two years where we encourage nominations of women to the Fellowship, this year 15 of the new Fellows elected in 2023/24 were women. At 23.8% of the 43 new Fellows, this was a reduction on the 51.2% of female Fellows elected in 2022/23. The overall proportion of female Fellows in the Society now stands at 28.25%.

This year, we asked Fellows to prioritise nominating people from an ethnic minority background. Almost a third of the new Fellows are from ethnic minority backgrounds, by far the highest percentage ever, an important outcome as the Society continues working to improve its diversity.

Formal Welcome and Introduction of Fellows

Honorary Fellows and Fellows elected during the 2023/24 election cycle who are physically present during the Annual General Meeting will be welcomed to the Society and asked to sign the Roll of Fellows, along with any Fellows not previously admitted who are in attendance.

APPENDIX A

Fellows Elected April 2024

Honorary Fellows

Professor Sir Ian Diamond FRSE FBA FAcSS

UK National Statistician & Director of the Office for National Statistics

Professor Dame Ann Dowling OM DBE FRS FREng HonFlMechE ScD Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Cambridge University

Professor William D. Phillips FAPS Hon. MOSA FAAAS MNAS NL

NIST Fellow, National Institute of Standards & Distinguished University and College Park Professor of Physics, University of Maryland

Fellows

Professor Alka Ahuja MBE FRCPsych FLSW Consultant Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist & National Clinical Lead, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board	Dr Seema Arif MBE FRCR FLSW Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Velindre University NHS Trust
Dr Lloyd Bowen FRHistS FLSW Reader, Early Modern History, Cardiff University	Professor Edmund Burke FREng FIMA FORS FBCS FLSW Vice-Chancellor, Bangor University
Professor Erminia Calabrese FLSW Professor & Deputy Director of Research, Cardiff Hub for Astrophysics Research and Technology Cardiff University	

Professor Stephan Collishaw FAcSS FLSW Professor, School of Medicine, Cardiff University	Professor Angharad Davies FRCPath FRCP PFHEA FLSW Clinical Professor & Honorary Consultant Medical Microbiologist, Swansea University
Professor Indu Deglurkar FRCS FRCS(CTh) FLSW Consultant Cardiothoracic Surgeon, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, & Honorary Visiting Professor, Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences University (SVIMS) Tirupati, India	Professor Stephen Eales FRAS FLSW Professor of Astrophysics & Co-Director of Cardiff Hub for Astrophysics Research and Technology, Cardiff University
Dr Haydn Edwards FRSC FLSW Independent consultant; formerly Principal and Chief Executive, Coleg Menai	Dr Aled Eirug FLSW Chair, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol
Professor Sandra Esteves FLSW Professor in Bioprocess Technology for Resource Recovery: Energy and Materials & Director of the Wales Centre of Excellence for Anaerobic Digestion, University of South Wales	Professor Brian Ford-Lloyd FLSW Emeritus Professor, University of Birmingham
Professor Graeme Garrard FRHistS FLSW Professor of Politics, Cardiff University	Professor Antonio Gil SFHEA FLSW Head of the School of Aerospace, Civil, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering, Swansea University
Mr Sumit Goyal MBE FRCS (Edinburgh) FRCS (Glasgow) FLSW Consultant Oncoplastic Surgeon, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board	Professor Peter Groves FRCP FLSW Consultant Cardiologist, Cardiff and Vale University Health Board & Honorary Professor, Cardiff University and Queen Mary University London

Professor Amira Guirguis FRPharmS SFHEA FLSW Associate Professor (Pharmacy), MPharm Programme Director & Head of Pharmacy Practice, Swansea University	Professor Sir Deian Hopkin FRHistS FRSA FCGI FLSW President, Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion
Professor William Housley DSc.Econ FAcSS FLSW Chair in Sociology, Cardiff University	Professor Michael Hughes DSc FLSW Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Khalifa University
Dr Savyasaachi Jain FHEA FLSW Reader, Journalism and Documentary, Cardiff University	Professor Wendy Larner FACSS FRSNZ PFHEA FNZGS FLSW President and Vice-Chancellor, Cardiff University
Professor Yueng-Djern Lenn FLSW Professor in Physical Oceanography, Bangor University	Professor Andrew Lewis SFHEA MISM FLSW Professor of Composition, Bangor University
Professor Yvonne McDermott Rees FHEA FLSW Professor of Law, Swansea University	Professor Paul Mealor CStJ CLJ FRSA FRSE FLSW Composer and Professor of Composition, University of Aberdeen
Professor Radhika Mohanram FLSW Professor of Postcolonial Studies, Cardiff University	Professor Aimee Morgans FREng FLSW Professor of Thermofluids, Imperial College London
Professor Thomas O'Loughlin MRIA FSA FRHistS FSA Scot FLSW Professor Emeritus of Historical Theology, University of Nottingham	Professor Chris Pearce FICE FLSW Vice Principal (Research & Knowledge Exchange), University of Glasgow

Professor Clair Rowden FHEA FLSW Professor of Music, Deputy Head of School of Music, Cardiff University	Professor Roiyah Saltus FLSW Professor of Sociology, University of South Wales
Professor Iram Siraj OBE FAcSS FRSA DLetts FLSW Professor of Child Development and Education, University of Oxford	Professor Mark Taubert FRCP FRCGP FFMLM FLSW Clinical Director for Palliative Medicine & Honorary Professor, Cardiff University, Velindre University NHS Trust
Professor Andrew Thomas DEng FIMechE FHEA FLSW Professor and Head of Aberystwyth Business School, Aberystwyth University	Professor Agustin Valera-Medina FHEA FLSW Director, Net Zero Innovation Institute, Cardiff University
Professor Andrew Westwell FLSW Professor of Medicinal Chemistry & Independent Board Member, Velindre University NHS Trust, Cardiff University	Dr Eurwyn Wiliam FSA FLSW Emeritus Keeper, National Museum Wales
Professor John G Williams CBE FRCP FLSW Professor Emeritus, Swansea University	Mr Llŷr Williams FLSW Concert Pianist
Professor Rattan Yadav FLSW Professor of Plant Genetics, Aberystwyth University	

APPENDIX B

Members of Scrutiny Committees for 2023/24 Election Cycle

HASS1: Language, Literature and the history and theory of the Creative and Performing Arts

Chair: Professor Mary-Ann Constantine

Vice-Chair: Professor Matt Jarvis

Professor Tony Brown

Professor Mererid Puw Davies Professor Patrick McGuinness

HASS2: History, Philosophy and Theology

Chair: Professor Chris Williams

Vice-Chair: Professor Hanna Diamond

Professor Sir Richard Evans
Professor Robert Evans
Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray
Professor Lucy Huskinson
Professor Helen Nicholson
Professor Catrin Williams

HASS3: Economic and Social Sciences, Education and Law

Chair: Dr Ceridwen Roberts

Vice-Chair: Professor Anne Edwards

Professor Urfan Khaliq Professor Colin McInnes Professor Ceri Phillips Professor Johanna Waters Professor Kath Woodward

ICAP1: Leadership in Public Engagement and Understanding

Chair: Mr Robert Humphreys Vice Chair: Ms Nia Williams Professor David Benton Dr Louise Bright Professor Tom Crick

Dr Olwen Williams

Professor Dame Julie Lydon Professor Lynda Warren

ICAP2: Leadership in Professional, Educational and Public Sectors

Chair: Mr David Allen

Vice-Chair: Professor Katherine Leni Oglesby

Professor Rob Deaves

Dr Sally Davies

Professor David Egan

Kathryn Monk

Dr Layla Jader

Sir Emyr Jones Parry Ms Maxine Penlington

STEMM1: Medicine and Medical Sciences

Chair: Professor Keith Lloyd

Vice Chair: Professor Keith Harding

Professor Peter Andrew Professor Monica Busse

Professor Shareen Doak

Professor Ann John

Professor Andrew Lever

Professor Ruth Northway

Professor Helen Stokes-Lampard

Professor Elizabeth Treasure

Professor Christopher Wood

STEMM2: Cellular, Molecular, Evolutionary, Organismal, and Ecosystem Sciences

Chair: Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi

Vice-Chair: Professor Ann Ager

Professor Lisa Collins Professor Roy Goodacre

Professor Hilary Lappin-Scott

Dr Helen Ougham

Professor Dipak Ramji

Professor Andrew Rowley

Professor Deri Tomos

STEMM3: Chemistry, Physics, Astronomy and Earth Sciences

Chair: Professor Dave Adams

Vice-Chair Professor Tavi Murray

Professor Peter Atkinson

Professor Nora de Leeuw

Professor Rachel Evans

Professor Ifan Hughes

Professor Eleri Pryse

Professor Martyn Tranter

Professor Carole Tucker

STEMM4: Computing, Mathematics and Statistics

Chair Professor Biagio Lucini Vice-Chair: Professor Ruth King

Professor Gwyn Bellamy Professor Paul Harper Professor Mark Lee

Professor Gennady Mishuris

Professor Tim Phillips Professor Tim Porter Professor Gareth Roberts

STEMM5: Engineering

Chair: Professor Michael Davies

Vice-Chair: Professor Serena Margadonna

Professor Liana Cipcigan Professor Graham Davies

Professor Harshinie Karunarathna

Professor Ron Pethig Professor Duc Pham Professor Rossi Setchi



Honours, Prizes & Awards

List of Awards and Honours Granted to Fellows, May 2023 – April 2024

Note: The following list has been compiled from the Fellows' Bulletins of the past year and may not be complete. To ensure that we have the most accurate and up-to-date information, we invite you to share any awards or recognition received. Additionally, please be aware that the information is organised by the month in which the news was publicised, rather than the month in which the award or honour was granted. Please also note that book publications and small grant awards are not included in this list.

May 2023

Professor Ann John received an award in the 'Outstanding Contribution to Science, Technology and Healthcare' category at the EMWWAA (Ethnic Minority Welsh Women Achievement Association) award ceremony on 13th May.

Professor Charlotte Williams was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award. EMWWAA aims to empower and inspire women and girls of ethnic minorities in Wales through recognition of their contributions.

Professor Menna Elfyn and Professor Zoe Skoulding were shortlisted for Welsh Book of the Year for their poetry collections, Tosturi (Welsh language) and A Marginal Sea respectively.

Baroness Ilora Finlay was one of the Peers named in the 100 Women in Westminster awards for the second year running.

Professor Andrew Hopkins was elected a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences for exceptional contributions to biomedical and health science.

Professor Trevor Jones received an Honorary DSc from The Hellenic University, Thessaloniki, Greece.

Professor John Baylis' 'Sharing Nuclear Secrets: Trust, Mistrust, and Ambiguity in Anglo-American Nuclear Relations Since 1939' was published by OUP.

Professor Laura McAllister and Professor Pedr ap Llwys were recognised by the Gorsedd ahead of this year's Eisteddfod, in recognition of 'their achievements and their commitment to Wales, our language and their local communities'.

The launch of a historical map of Swansea, produced by **Professor Helen Fulton** with the Historic Towns Trust, took place at Swansea Museum. The map is the first of its kind: a map of a Welsh city all in Welsh.

Rachel Podger, appointed as Principal Guest Director of Tafelmusik, won BBC Music Magazine's 2023 Recording of the Year Award and the Instrumental Award for her acclaimed solo recital album, Tutta Sola.

Professor Claire Gorrara was named Chevalier dans l'Ordre National du Mérite by the French Ambassador in recognition of her services to the French language and culture and the promotion of multilingualism in Wales and the UK.

Professor Meena Upadhyaya, who was awarded an Emeritus Professorship at Cardiff University in February 2023, was invited to the King's coronation at Westminster Abbey.

June 2023

Professor Medwin Hughes was recognised in the King's Birthday Honours (CBE) for services to education and the Welsh language.

Dr Anju Kumar was recognised in the King's Birthday Honours (OBE) for services to women's health and welfare in Wales.

Professor Mererid Hopwood was presented to the Gorsedd Board at this year's Eisteddfod for the position of Archdruid, 2024-27. She was the second woman Archdruid after Professor Christine James.

Professor Menna Elfyn took part in the Ledbury Poetry Festival, and her latest volume, Cellängel, was launched in Sweden, with a new Swedish translation by distinguished poet Marie Tonkin.

Professor Stuart Taylor won the Royal Society of Chemistry's Environment Prize for his pioneering work to create catalysts that help the environment, including processes that purify contaminated air.

Professor David Wyn Jones's The Strauss Dynasty and Habsburg Vienna was published by CUP. It explores how the family was at the centre of Habsburg Viennese society for over a century of music-making.

Professor Michael Levi received the European Criminology Award. He is the only person to receive lifetime awards for research scholarship from the American, British and European Societies of Criminology.

July 2023

Professor Mike Reed and Dr Cara Reed (a member of our ECR Network), from Cardiff Business School, brought out Enough of Experts: Expert Authority in Crisis, which explores the power and influence of experts and analyses the challenges and threats to expert authority in neoliberal political economies and societies.

Dr Ceridwen Lloyd-Morgan was awarded an Honorary Fellowship by the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to scholarship in Wales and Brittany.

The History of Parliament: The House of Commons, 1640-1660, edited by **Dr Stephen Roberts**, was published. The work of more than thirty years and multiple authors, this nine-volume set contains 1800 biographies of MPs, accounts of elections in each constituency, and details of the work of the executive committees set up by the Parliament.

Professor Roger Falconer was awarded The Chinese Government Friendship Award for contributions to "China's modernization drive". China's highest award for foreign experts, it was granted in September last year and collected this June during a trip to China.

Professor Geraint Jewell was appointed to the role of Vice President and Head of the Advanced Manufacturing Group at the University of Sheffield, overseeing its work to support the UK's economic and social development.

Professor Dafydd Johnston was elected a Fellow of the British Academy, in recognition of his work on Welsh literature, medieval Welsh poetry, Dafydd ap Gwilym, textual transmission, lexicon and translation.

September 2023

Martin Rees, Lord Rees of Ludlow, was named 2023 year's recipient of The Royal Society's Copley Medal, the society's oldest and most prestigious award. The Medal recognises 'sustained, outstanding achievements in any field of science.'

Professor Hagan Bayley received the Buchanan Medal from The Royal Society for founding his biotech company Oxford Nanopore Technology.

Professor Rob Deaves, Professor Wyn Meredith and Professor Graham Hutchings, became Fellows of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

October 2023

Professor W. John Morgan was elected an Honorary Professor, School of Educational Sciences, University of Jordan in recognition of his contribution to comparative and international education and social development.

November 2023

Professor Tom Crick won our 2023 Hugh Owen medal and received the BCS Lovelace Medal, awarded for outstanding contributions to the advancement of computing.

January 2024

Professor Paul Emery was awarded CBE, for services to rheumatology.

Professor Andrew Hopkins was awarded CBE, for services to science and to innovation.

Professor Ronald Hutton was awarded CBE, for services to history.

Dr Hamsaraj Shetty was awarded MBE, for services to stroke services in Wales.

Professor Qiang Shen received the 2024 IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Fuzzy Systems Pioneer Award, 'for developing data-driven approximate knowledge-based decision support systems and their applications.' The award recognises the advancement of theory, technologies, and applications of fuzzy systems by inventing new technologies, creating innovative technical developments, implementing new products, or managing innovative product design or production processes.

February 2024

Dr Sara Elin Roberts received the Hywel Dda Prize for her book The Growth of Law in Medieval Wales, c.1100–c.1500, a study of the lawbooks which were created in the changing social and political climate of post-Conquest Wales.

Professor Christopher Evans won the 2024 Clinical Research Award of the OREF (Orthopaedic Research and Education Foundation) for his submission Osteoarthritis Gene Therapy: A 30-year journey from concept to clinical trials.

Professor Ron Laskey was made an Officer of the French National Order of Merit (Officier dans L'Ordre National du Mérite). It was presented by Professor Hugues de Thé, Professor of Molecular Oncology at the College de France, to recognise Professor Laskey's work on the cell biology of cancer and his long involvement with French science.

March 2024

Professor Ambreena Manji was elected to the Academy of Social Sciences; her research is in African law and society and includes work on law in African literature, African history, legal education, and women and the law.

The music of **Honorary Fellow Sir Karl Jenkins** was the focus of Radio 3's weeklong Composer of the Week series.

Professor Daniel Wincott was an expert witness at the end of February at the UK Covid-19 inquiry.



Annual Report and Accounts, 1 August 2022 to 31 July 2023

The Society's Bye-Laws and Regulations require our audited accounts and annual report to be presented at the AGM. Fellows are therefore invited to receive the Annual Report and Accounts for the period **1 August 2022** to **31 July 2023** (the Society's tenth accounting period).

The Report and Accounts can be downloaded from the Society's website: https://www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/key-documents/

Hard copies are available on request.

The draft accounts were prepared by Charles Goss, an accountant from Azets, in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable to registered charities (FRS 102).

The accounts were then submitted to the Society's Independent Financial Examiner, Joanne Taylor FCCA DChA from Azets, for consideration in September 2023. Azets carried out its examination under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. This ensured that the accounts provide a "true and fair view", in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Azets had no concerns about the accounts, and they came across no other matters in their examination to which attention should be drawn in this report.

The report and accounts were approved by Council on 13 March 2024. They were signed on behalf of the Society and its Trustees by the President and the Acting Treasurer, and subsequently submitted to the Charity Commission.

Key financial developments in 2022/23

Total income was £548,871, up from £380,401 the previous year. The Society increased the amount of HEFCW funding received and worked closely to develop a strong relationship with colleagues in HEFCW.

The Society remains grateful for the excellent support of universities in Wales; they provided generous unrestricted grants and, in some cases, additional grants for specific projects and in-kind support. We would also like to thank our Fellows who support our work through payment of fees, subscriptions and donations, often supplementing payments by allowing the Society to claim Gift Aid against membership fees.

Total expenditure this year was £569,581 comprising £400,815 (70% of spending) on activities (for example running events, roundtables, developing our Fellowship, awarding Medals and the ECR

Network), £74,525 (13%) on public policy development, £65,780 (12%) on publications and £28,461 (5%) on governance.

On 31 July 2023, the Society held free reserves of £422,287 (2022: £435,521). We retain sufficient unrestricted funds to cover at least six months of our core costs (£227,500). Our use of investment funds and fixed-return savings accounts helped produce a modest additional income stream for reinvestment. The Finance Committee began a review of its reserves and investments alongside the implementation of the new strategic plan, and will be carrying out a comprehensive review and producing a revised investment policy and investment policy statement next year.

Fellows are asked to adopt the Annual Report and accounts.

Appointment of Independent Examiners and the fixing of their Remuneration 2023/24

To maintain public confidence in their work, the law requires most charities to have an external scrutiny of their accounts.

The Society's Bye-laws state the following:

17. Auditors or Independent Examiners

- 17.1 The accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by auditors or independent examiners who shall be appointed by and whose duties shall be regulated by the **Council.**
- 17.2 No persons shall be appointed as auditors or independent examiners unless suitably qualified.

The Finance Committee previously established that due to its size, a full audit of the Society's accounts is not required; the smaller-scale **independent examination** is sufficient. Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd have agreed to carry out the examination of the accounts for 2023/24 at a cost of £4,200 (including VAT).

Fellows are asked to approve the appointment of Advantage Accountancy & Advisory Ltd as the independent financial examiner for the financial year 2023/24, at a cost of £4,200 (incl VAT).



Governance Matters

Governing Instruments

The Society is a Royal Charter Charity (registered charity number 1168622). Its governing documents are its Royal Charter and Bye-laws. These, along with the Regulations, form the Society's governing instruments. Copies of all of these documents are available on the Society's website: www.learnedsociety.wales/about-us/governance/

Officers, Council and Committees: Outgoing and new members

The Society's Council

The Charter provides for the Society's governing body to be the Council, in which "shall be vested the government and control of the Society and its affairs" subject to the provision of the Charter, Bye-laws and Regulations. This includes the determination of the educational activities of the Society, the effective and efficient use of resources, the solvency of the Society and the safeguarding of its assets, as well as ensuring that all matters relating to accounts and financial procedures are conducted in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements. Members of the Council serve as Charity Trustees for the purpose of charity law.

Election of Officers and Members of the Council 2024

1. Officers

1.1 Election of the Vice-President for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)

The Society's Bye-law 9.2 (i) provides that: "Vice President(s) shall be elected by the members of the Society from amongst their number (other than the President and Chair of Council)."

The term of office of the Society's current Vice-President STEMM, Professor Michael Charlton FINSTP FLSW MAE will end at the close of the Annual General Meeting on 22 May 2024.

All Fellows were contacted on Wednesday 10 January 2024 and advised that the term of office for the Society's Vice-President STEMM was coming to an end. Fellows were further advised that Professor Charlton was not eligible to stand for re-election, and applications for Vice-President for STEMM were welcomed with a deadline of 07 February 2024.

Following the closing date for applications, the Council considered the applications received and unanimously approved the launch of a ballot for the Fellowship to vote from 20 February 2024 to 12 March 2024. The candidates in alphabetical order were:

- Professor Robert Beynon
- Professor Perumal Nithiarasu
- Professor Laurence Glynn Williams

The ballot closed on 12 March 2024 and was scrutinised on the same day by two of the Society's Fellows, Professor Lisa Isherwood and Professor Sarah Hill, in the presence of the Society's Clerk, as per the Society's Regulations (5.3). The Society is grateful to both Professor Lisa Isherwood and Professor Sarah Hill for undertaking this role.

Fellows were notified of the ballot result on 30 April 2024 in which it was announced that the Fellowship had elected **Professor Robert Beynon** as the Society's new Vice-President for Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine from the end of the 2024 Annual General Meeting to the end of the 2027 Annual General Meeting.

1.2 Treasurer

The Society's Regulation 6.3 (i) provide that: "The Treasurer shall be elected by the Fellows of the Society from amongst their number."

The term of office of the Society's current Treasurer, Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW will end at the close of the Annual General Meeting on 22 May 2024.

All Fellows were contacted on Wednesday 10 January 2024 and advised that the term of office for the Society's Treasurer was coming to an end. Fellows were further advised that Professor Threadgold was not running for re-election, and applications for Treasurer were welcomed with a deadline of 07 February 2024.

Following the closing date for applications, the Council considered the application received and unanimously approved the applicant for the position of the Society's Treasurer. An election was not required for this position as the number of applications received was in line with the number of positions available.

Fellows were notified of this result on 30 April 2024, announcing that **Dr Sally Davies** will serve as the Society's new Treasurer from the end of the 2024 Annual General Meeting to the end of the 2027 Annual General Meeting.

2. Members of Council

As part of a Governance review project, the Governance Oversight Committee approved the 2024 vacancies for Council based on the Society's Regulations (3.1), which state that the Council shall comprise of the following members:

- i. the President.
- ii. the two Vice-Presidents.
- iii. the Treasurer.
- iv. the General Secretary.
- v. Elected Members; no more than fifteen Fellows of the Society elected by the Fellowship.
- vi. Co-opted Members; no more than two Fellows of the Society co-opted by the Council.
- vii. The total membership of the Council shall be no fewer than ten persons.

This year, seven Council members will complete their term of office at the 2024 AGM:

- Professor Kirsti Bohata (eligible for re-election)
- Professor Michael Charlton (not eligible for re-election)
- Professor leuan Hughes (not eligible for re-election)
- Professor Ambreena Manji (eligible for re-election)
- Professor Alan Shore (not eligible for re-election)
- Professor Terry Threadgold (eligible for re-election)
- Dr Lynn Williams (not eligible for re-election)

The Society's Regulations (8.1) state that Council members' terms of office are as follows:

- i. except as provided for in these Regulations, the term of Office for Elected Members of Council shall ordinarily be three Society Years;
- ii. Elected Members of Council shall be eligible for re-election for a second term;
- iii. Elected Members having served two terms shall not be eligible for re-election for a further term until at least one Society Year has elapsed;
- iv. the term of Office for new Elected Members of Council shall commence at the close of the Annual General Meeting at which their election was announced.

2.1 Election of Council Members

On Wednesday 10 January 2024, all Fellows were contacted and informed about a vacancy on the Council, commencing at the end of the 2024 AGM and continuing until the end of the 2027 AGM. Additionally, Fellows were notified that Professor Kirsti Bohata was eligible for re-election and had expressed her intention to run. Applications for Council membership were welcomed with a deadline of 07 February 2024.

Following the closing date for applications, the Council on their 13 March meeting, considered the application received and unanimously approved the applicant, **Professor Kirsti Bohata** to start her second term in Council. An election was not required for this position as the number of applications received was in line with the number of positions available.

2.2 Co-option of Council Members

The Society's Regulations (9.1) also allow Council to co-opt up to two additional Fellows to serve as members. **Professor Ambreena Manji** was co-opted for a second term of three years, and **Professor Terry Threadgold** was co-opted for a term of one year.

Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala Clerk to Council May 2024

APPENDIX A

1. THE COUNCIL

The Council directs and manages the Society and governs and controls its affairs. It delegates some of its functions to standing committees, which report regularly to Council. As the Society is a registered charity, members of Council fulfil the role of Trustees. The Council held four ordinary meetings and one special meetings during the year.

The Society's Bye-laws (3.2) state that the total membership of the Council shall be no fewer than 10 people. The Regulations (3.1) state that Council shall comprise the following members:

- the President
- the two Vice-Presidents
- the Treasurer
- the General Secretary
- Elected Members; no more than 15 Fellows of the Society elected by the Fellowship
- Co-opted Members; no more than two Fellows of the Society co-opted by the Council

Council members during the Society year 2023-24 were as follows:

Officers

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President and Chair of Council Professor Michael Charlton FInstP FLSW, Vice-President Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW, Vice-President Professor Emerita Terry Threadgold FLSW, Treasurer

Elected members

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW

Professor Ieuan Hughes FMedSci FRCP FRCP(C) FRCPCH FLSW

Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW

Professor Alan Shore FinstP FLSW

Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW

Professor Meena Upadhyaya OBE FRCPath FLSW

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Kirsti Bohata FHEA FLSW

Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW

Professor Alma Harris FRSA FLSW

Professor Iwan Rhys Morus FRHistS FLSW

Professor Carol Tully FLSW (resigned November 2023)

Industry, Commerce, The Arts and Professions (ICAP)

Dr Lynn Williams FLSW

Co-opted members

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Ambreena Manji FLSW

Council members for 2024-25 will be as follows:

Officers

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President and Chair of Council Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW, Vice-President

Elected members

Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine (STEMM)

Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW Professor Meena Upadhyaya MAE FBCS FLSW

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Kirsti Bohata FHEA FLSW Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW Professor Alma Harris FRSA FLSW Professor Iwan Rhys Morus FRHistS FLSW

Co-opted Members

Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS)

Professor Ambreena Manji FLSW Professor Emerita Terry Threadgold FLSW

2. COMMITTEES

The Society's Royal Charter and Bye-laws give Council the power to "create, dissolve and set terms of reference for such Committees of the Council as it sees fit, which may include persons who are not Council members".

The Society's existing Committees are listed below:

2.1 Executive Committee

Council has delegated power to an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee supports the day-to-day business of the Society and ensures effective management.

Its current members are:

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President and Chair of Council

Professor Emerita Terry Threadgold FLSW, Treasurer

Professor Michael Charlton FInstP FLSW, Vice-President

Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW, Vice-President

Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive

Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala, Clerk

Its members at the end of the 2024 AGM will be:

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President and Chair of Council

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer

Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President

Professor Helen Fulton FSA FLSW, Vice-President

Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Olivia Harrison, Chief Executive

Dr Haydeé Martínez-Zavala, Clerk

2.2 General Purposes Committee

The General Purposes Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its duties. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- (i) Members ex officio:
 - The President (who shall be Chair)
- (ii) Five members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship;
- (iii) Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

Its current members are and will remain the same in 2024:

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)

Professor Perumal Nithiarasu DSc CEng FIMA FMechE FIPEM FLSW

Ms Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW

Professor Loredana Polezzi FLSW

Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

Professor Roger King LFIEEE PE FLSW

There are currently no co-opted members on this committee.

2.3 Finance Committee

The Finance Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its financial responsibilities. This includes compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and other relevant legislation, management of Society budgets, and compliance with external financial reporting standards. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- (i) Members ex officio:
 - The Treasurer (who shall be Chair)
- (ii) Four members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship;
- (iii) Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

Its current members are:

Professor Emerita Terry Threadgold FLSW, Treasurer (Chair)

Professor Lisa Collins FRSB FRSS FLSW

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW

Professor Ann Heilmann FEA FLSW

Professor Mark Rees DSc FRCPath FLSW FRCPE

Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW

There are currently no co-opted members on this committee

Its members at the end of the 2024 AGM will be:

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer (Chair)

Professor Lisa Collins FRSB FRSS FLSW

Professor Ann Heilmann FEA FLSW

Professor Mark Rees DSc FRCPath FLSW FRCPE

Professor John Tucker MAE FBCS FLSW

There are currently no co-opted members on this committee

2.4 Governance Oversight Committee

The Governance Oversight Committee has replaced the Governance Appointments Committee. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

(i) Members ex officio:

The President (who shall be Chair)

The General Secretary

The Treasurer

The Vice-President (from the broad category of Science, Technology and Medicine)

The Vice-President (from the broad category of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)

- (ii) Two members from amongst the Council; one of each gender who are not Officers, appointed by Council
- (iii) Such other Fellow or Fellows, who are not Council members, not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt

Its current members are:

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)

Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW, Treasurer

Professor Michael Charlton FInstP FLSW, Vice-President STEMM

Professor Helen Fulton FRHistS AcSS FLSW, Vice-President HASS

Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW

Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW

Its members at the end of the 2024 AGM will be:

Professor Hywel R Thomas CBE FREng FRS PLSW MAE, President (Chair)

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW, Treasurer

Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM

Professor Helen Fulton FRHistS AcSS FLSW, Vice-President HASS

Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW, General Secretary

Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW

Professor Qiang Shen DSc FBCS FREng FLSW

There are currently no co-opted members on this committee

2.5 Fellowship Committee

The Fellowship Committee oversees the election process for Fellowship and works to improve Fellowship diversity (for example, in terms of the Equality Act 2010). It also finalises each year's nomination forms and election processes in support of these aims. Its Terms of Reference provides for its membership to be as follows:

- (i) Members ex officio:
 - Vice-President, HASS (who shall be co-Chair)
 - Vice-President, STEMM (who shall be co-Chair)
- (ii) Two members of Council appointed from their number
- (iii) Two members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship
- (iv) Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members

Its current members are listed below:

Professor Michael Charlton FInstP FLSW, Vice-President STEMM

Professor Helen Fulton FLSW, Vice-President HASS

Professor Mansel Aylward CB MD DSC FFPM FFOM FFPH FRCP FLSW

Professor Robert Beynon FLSW

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW

Professor Shareen Doak FLSW

Professor leuan Hughes FMedSci FRCP FRCP(C) FRCPCH FLSW

Co-opted member:

Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW

Its members at the end of the 2024 AGM will be:

Professor Robert Beynon FLSW, Vice-President STEMM

Professor Helen Fulton FLSW, Vice-President HASS

Dr Sally Davies FRCP FLSW

Professor Shareen Doak FLSW

Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW

*Available vacancies, for more information please click here.

2.6 Human Resources Committee

The Human resources Committee ensures that Council has adequate information to enable it to discharge its HR responsibilities. Its Terms of Reference were revised following the Governance Review and provide for its membership as follows:

- (i) Members ex officio:
 - The General Secretary (who shall be Chair)
- (ii) Four members appointed by the Council from among the Fellowship, one of whom shall be appointed as Vice-Chair
- (iii) Such other person or persons not exceeding two in number as the Committee may think fit to co-opt as members.

Its current members are and will remain the same in 2024:

Professor Faron Moller FBCS FIMA FLSW (Chair)
Professor David Wyn Jones FLSW
Ms Maxine Penlington OBE FLSW
Mrs Elin Rhys DLitt FLSW
Professor Geoff Richards FIOR FBSE FRMS FLSW

3. WORKING GROUPS

3.1 Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Working Group

The working group was set up in 2022 to review and respond to the recommendations of the EDI Report carried out in 2021. The group is responsible for reporting to Council to offer advice on the recommendations and how to deliver them. Its Terms of Reference provides for its membership to be as follows:

- (i) At least 3 Fellows 1 of whom will be a Council member will chair the group and report to Council on progress/recommendations
- (ii) 1 external expert on EDI
- (iii) 3 staff members the Chief Executive, Clerk and Fellowship Officer
- (iii) Such other person or persons as the Working Group may think fit to co-opt as members.

Current members of the EDI working group will remain the same in 2024:

Professor Terry Threadgold FLSW (Chair)

Dr Louise Bright FLSW

Dr Cameron Durrant FLSW

Dr Layla Jader MB ChB DA MD FMPHM FLSW

Professor Ruth Northway OBE FRCN PFHEA FLSW

Professor Emmanuel Ogbonna FLSW

Professor Bettina Schmidt FLSW

Professor Alan Shore FInstP FLSW

Dr Emma Yhnell SFHEA FLSW

3.2 Welsh Language Working Group

The Welsh Language Working Group has evolved following the creation of LSW's Welsh Language Policy, into an advisory group that reviews how the policy is implemented, and provides support and advice to staff. The staff Welsh Language Policy Lead provides an update to the group on policy implementation progress twice per year.

Current members of the Welsh Language working group will remain the same in 2024:

Professor Alan Shore FInstP FLSW (Chair) Ms Nia Williams FLSW Professor Enlli Mon Thomas FHEA FLSW Dr Lynn Williams FLSW Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW

3.3 Advisory Group for Researcher Development

The Advisory Group for Researcher Development shapes the direction of the Early Career Researcher Network and its activities. The Advisory Group members are responsible for assessing the current Welsh research environment, its opportunities and barriers, and for exploring how the Society can expand its activities to develop researchers' careers. Its membership consists of four members of the Network and four of the Society's Fellows.

Current members of the Advisory Group for Researcher Development will remain the same in 2024:

LSW Fellows:

Professor Alan Shore FInstP FLSW (Chair)
Professor Alma Harris, FRSA FLSW - Cardiff Metropolitan University
Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW - Bangor University
Professor Simon Hands FLSW - University of Liverpool
Professor Andrew Rowley FLSW - Swansea University

Early Career Researchers:

Dr Emily Cock - Cardiff University
Dr Emrys Evans - Swansea University
Dr Shareena Hamzah-Osbourne - Swansea University
Dr Lucy Trotter - Aberystwyth University

4. UNIVERSITY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LEARNED SOCIETY (URLS)

One of the ways we develop our relationships with Welsh Universities and their affiliated Fellows is through the work we do with our 'Representatives' of the Learned Society (currently known as URLS). Each University has a small number of Fellows designated in the role of 'Representative' who elect to work with LSW in supporting and promoting the society through links and activities as well as representing the wider Fellowship at that institution.

Current University Representatives of the Learned Society will remain the same in 2024:

Aberystwyth University

Professor Iwan Rhys Morus FRHistS FLSW Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW

Bangor University

Professor Raluca Radulescu FLSW

Cardiff Metropolitan University

Professor David Brooksbank FRSA FLSW

Cardiff University

Professor Gillian Bristow FACSS FLSW Professor Claire Gorrara FRHistS FLSW Professor Marian Ludgate FLSW Professor Chris Taylor FLSW

Open University

Professor Trevor Herbert DLitt FLeedsCM FRCM FLSW

Swansea University

Professor Venkateswarlu Kanamarlapudi DSc FRSB FRSC FABAP FAPAS FLSW Professor Huw Summers FLSW

University of South Wales

Professor Diana Wallace FLSW Professor Louise Bright FLSW

University of Wales Trinity Saint Davies

Professor Catrin Haf Williams FLSW

Wrexham University

Professor Richard Day FInstP FRAeS FIMMM FLSW

APPENDIX B

Medal Committee members 2023

Menelaus Medal

Chair: Professor Javier Bonet FLSW
Dr Robert Deaves FIET FHEA FLSW
Professor Perumal Nithiarasu DSc CEng FIMA FMechE FIPEM FLSW FLSW
SWIEET representative – Phil Hourahine (non-Fellow)

Frances Hoggan Medal

Chair: Professor Lynne Boddy DSc FLSW Professor Lisa Collins FRSB FRSS FLSW Professor Stuart Palmer DSc CPhys FInstP FREng FLSW Professor Eleri Pryse FLSW

Dr. Olwen Williams OBE FRCP FLSW

Hugh Owen Medal

Chair: Professor Reyer Zwiggelaar FLSW Mr David Allen OBE HonLLD FLSW Professor Anne Edwards AcSS FLSW

Dillwyn Medal: STEMM

Chair: Professor Alan Guwy FLSW Professor Neil Champness FRSC FLSW Professor Geraint Lewis FLSW

Dillwyn Medal: Social Sciences, Business and Education

Chair: Dr Ceridwen Roberts OBE FACSS FLSW Professor Gordon Cumming FRHistS FLSW Professor Kathryn Woodward FLSW

Dillwyn Medal: Creative Arts and Humanities

Chair: Professor Richard Carwardine FRHistS FLSW FBA CMG Professor Matthew Jarvis FLSW Dr Mererid Puw Davies FLSW